THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPTAIN JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The various measures taken by the State Government of Karnataka to encourage plantation of sandalwood trees are:—

(i) Restoration of about 1,36,000 ha. of natural sandalwood bearing areas in nine districts of Karnataka in a period of 20 years;

(ii) Creation of pure patches/estates of sandalwood in 20,000 ha. in five districts of Karnataka in a period of 10 years;

(iii) Implementation of scheme, providing 75% as bonus to private parties/people who grow and protect sandalwood trees in their land;

(iv) Popularisation of Sandalwood plantation under Social Forestry Extension Programme.

Railway Infrastructure in Maharashtra

666. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have initiated any plan of action to provide vital rail infrastructure for development of the various backward areas in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) details of the projects targetted for completion in 1996-97 and those which are likely to be completed in the Ninth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following works have been taken up or are planned to be carried out in the backward areas of Maharashtra:-

NEW LINES

1. Ahmednagar-Beed_Parlivaijnath

2. Panvel-Karjat new BG electrified line (Phase-I)

GAUGE CONVERSIONS

1. Miraj-Latur

2. Mudkhed-Adilabad

3. Gondia-Chanda Fort

4. Solapur-Gadag

(c) None of the above project are targetted for completion during 1996-97. However, these projects are likely to be completed in the Ninth and Tenth Plan periods.

Determination of Staff Strength in Kendriya Vidyalayas

667. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA:
SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that staff strength is determined every year in respect of every Kendriya Vidyalaya in conformity with a set of norms that exist;

(b) if so, what are the details of these norms;

(c) whether there are large number of teachers who have been working in Kendriya Vidyalayas without existence of their respective vacancies there;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof Vidyalaya and category wise; and

(e) what is the justification thereof in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPTT. OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAKIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of the norms are at given in the enclosed statement (*see* below).

(c) to (e) The staff in various grades are posted to each Kendriya Vidyalaya according to the sanctioned strength which is determined each year based on the enrolment of students/ courses of studies. If certain number of staff are temporarily rendered surplus because of the change in sanctioned strength due to decrease in classes/sections, upgradation, transfers, promotions and delay in joining new positions etc., they are posted/adjusted against available vacancies. This is a continuous process. There is no surplus to the overall sanctioned strength of Sangathan.

Statement

Determination of Staff Strength in kendriya Vidyalayas

1. The number of teachers in primary and secondary departments are estimated by dividing the total period of a Vidyalaya

by prescribed workload of individual category of teachers in each department. However, the number of PETs and Yoga teachers depend upon the students enrolment and number of sections in secondary department of Vidyalaya respectively.

2. Kendriya Vidyalayas having classes I to VIII are sanctioned one post of Principal Grade-II. Kendriya Vidyalayas having classes IX and above are sanctioned Principal Grade-I. In addition to Principal a post of Vice-Principal is given when the total enrolment of Vidyalaya is 1000 and above.
3. Where ever the primary classes are located in a separate building or functioning in a different shift or where total enrolment of Vidyalaya is more than 700, a post of Headmaster is sanctioned.
4. Each Vidyalaya having classes upto VI and above are provided with a Librarian.
5. Posts of Office Superintendent/Head Clerk, UDC and LDC are based on the enrolment of Vidyalaya.
6. One Lab. Attendent post is sanctioned for each laboratory in a Vidyalaya.
7. Presently posts of Group D are sanctioned at the rate of 06 for a fullfledged Vidyalaya.

Conversion of Ahmedabad-Himmatnagar and Ahmedabad-Vijapur railway line

668. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have received the comments of the Gujarat Government on the feasibility report for conversion of Ahmedabad-Himmatnagar and Ahmedabad-Vijapur railway line into Broad gauge line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the construction work is likely to be taken up and the time schedule for its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no system of obtaining comments from the State Govt. on project feasibility reports of the Railways.

(c) These projects are not yet sanctioned, as such, the reply to this part of the question does not arise.

Frequent Train Accidents

669. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 60 passengers were killed and 100 hurt in Gorakhpur Gonda Passenger train that rammed into a stationary goods train at Domingarh railway station;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted;

(c) if so, the outcome of the enquiry;

(d) whether for the last three months a number of train accidents took place in all parts of the country;

(e) if so, the total number of acidents and the amount of loss suffered by the passengers as well as by the Government; and

(f) steps being taken to check such rail accidents in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) In the accident on 18.4.96 involving 583 Up Gorakhpur-Gonda Passenger and Dn Gorakhpur Cantt. Special train at Domingarh station of North Eastern Railway, 54 persons were killed, 47 sustained grievous injuries and 37 suffered minor injuries.

(b) and (c) The accident has been enquired into by the Commissioner of Railway Safety, North Eastern Circle, whose report is awaited.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. There were 102 train accidents on Indian Railways during April-June 1996. the approximate cost of damage to railway property is estimated at Rs. 11.42 Crores.